

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3109

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008

UNUSED AIRPORTS/AIRSTRIPS

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of the airports/airstrips in the country and the number of airports/airstrips out of them which are operational;
- (b) the details of airports/airstrips in the country lying unused and non-operational;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to convert the non-operational airports/airstrips into commercial airports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated for the purpose; and
- (e) the steps taken to revive the airports/airstrips as part of the expansion of the aviation network?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) & (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) manages 125 airports out of which 92 are operational including Delhi and Mumbai Airports.33 airports are lying unused and non-operational.

(c),(d) & (e) AAI proposes to upgrade some of its non-operational small airports subject to availability of land from the concerned State Governments free of cost and free from encumbrances, either through its own resources or in joint venture with the State Governments. In the case of North-East States,the existing airports are proposed to be developed with substantive Government funding.The non-operational airports which are tentatively identified for upgradation are: Balurghat,Behala,Cooch Behar,Malda in West Bengal,Chakulia in Jharkhand, Jharsuguda in Orissa,Muzaffarpur in Bihar,Akola,Sholapur in Maharashtra,Cuddapah,Warangal i n Andhra Pradesh,Mysore in Karnataka,Vellore in Tamil Nadu,Passighat,Zero,Tezu airports of State Government in Arunachal Pradesh,Rupsi in Assam,Kamalpur,Kailashar in Tripura,and Tura of State Government i n Meghalaya.However,itis not possible to indicate the funds required,at present, since the matter is at a preliminary stage in respect of most of these airports.